

GEN. HARRIES ANGERED BY SHARP CRITICISM

Holds Prof. Hill Accountable for Remarks Charging Falsification.

DECLINES REPLY TO QUERY

Prof. Hill, of the Naval Observatory, Accuses the Washington Traction and Electric Company of Making Inaccurate Reports to Congress.

A heated controversy occurred between Gen. George H. Harries, vice president of the Washington Traction and Electric Company, and Prof. G. A. Hill, of the Naval Observatory, in the Senate District Committee yesterday afternoon.

The bill providing for free transfers between the two street railway systems of the District was under discussion before a subcommittee, consisting of Senators McMillan and Gallinger, President Dunlop, of the Capital Traction Company, Vice President Harries, Capt. Biddle, the Engineer Commissioner of the District, and representatives of the Mount Pleasant Citizens' Association, the Northeast Washington Citizens' Association and the Knights of Labor were in attendance.

During one of the early speeches of the hearing Prof. Hill charged that the reports of the street railway companies to Congress are not accurate. Gen. Harries stated to the committee that if the charge had been made in any other place he would have held the gentleman who made it personally responsible.

Prof. Hill later made the charge again. He proceeded to give an exposition of one of the reports of Gen. Harries' roads in support of his statement.

General Harries stated that unless the professor confined his remarks to more parliamentary language he would be held accountable for them.

He said that the reports are sworn to, and that every figure in them is accurate and fully complies with the laws of Congress.

Later General Harries refused to answer a question put by Prof. Hill, stating that he would have nothing more to do with him.

"I did not intend my remarks to be personal to the gentleman in any way," said Prof. Hill. Prof. Hill said that he is an attorney of twenty years' experience, and did not withdraw from his assertion that the reports are doctored to benefit one company at the expense of another.

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made a practice of doing this," he interjected.

He added to what President Dunlop had said regarding the liberality of the system in the District that the companies are forced to pay more for the construction of their lines here than in any other city in the country except New York. It is provided by law that a certain grade of work shall be done, at a cost of \$30,000 a mile of single track.

He stated his opinion that the street railways of the District have increased the value of real estate in the suburbs at about \$25,000,000.

Gen. Harries concluded his remarks by the statement that it is almost an impossibility to secure capital for investment in the District, and quite impossible to secure it for street railways on account of the uncertainty as to what Congress will enact in the way of laws. He said that this bill and the others regarding street railway affairs have been discussed by some of the most important financial powers in New York.

"The system of roads which I represent is not making money. It is losing money every year. Some of these roads will be forced to receive money in the near future," he said. "If this bill passes, when the courts take hold of them it will be necessary that they be operated within their receipts."

"I warn the people that are complaining of the present system of transfers among the street railways that there will be a far less desirable system when this occurs."

In the Northeast Section.

Mr. Herman J. Schulteis, chairman of the legislative committee of the Knights of Labor, called special attention to the East Washington situation again. He said that the poor people generally live in this section, and that the imposing of two fares on them for one ride to and from their work is an especial hardship.

He noted the large number of people who, he said, live on Capitol Hill and work in the Government Printing Office, and are compelled to pay two fares to reach the office.

He said that no doubt the Washington railway system had been foolishly liberal with their transfers before they had suffered the character, but that as soon as the charter had been given them by Congress they had cut off a large part of their transfers and had never replaced them.

Prof. Hill was the next speaker. He began by repeating what he had said in an introductory way before, that the reports of the Washington railways were false and that he could prove it.

He held personally responsible.

"If the gentleman does not confine himself to parliamentary language I will hold him personally responsible," General Harries said, rising to his feet and glaring at the professor.

"What does this report of the Columbia line mean, then?" asked Prof. Hill, and he pointed out an apparent discrepancy between the two statements.

He went on to state what he considered to be other inaccuracies or evasions of the report, and finally asked a question of General Harries.

"I refuse to answer the question or to recognize the questioner in any way," General Harries answered. "I hold him personally responsible for the attacks he has made on these reports."

"I do not intend what I am saying to be in any way personal to the gentleman," said Prof. Hill. "It has been so understood I withdraw it."

General Harries seemed to be somewhat mollified by this, and there was no recurrence of the difficulty between them.

Prof. Hill continued his attacks on the railways, however. He said that the reports showed that the motormen and conductors were getting less money now than they were, and that the officers of the companies have had their salaries increased.

Representative Rhea began his argument yesterday in defense of his claim to the seat in the House which he now holds as the representative from the Third Congressional district of Kentucky.

He spoke with much earnestness, force, and eloquence, and was given close attention by his associates on both sides of the chamber, and several times he was interrupted by applause.

During the course of his remarks he took occasion, as he said, to elucidate the Goebel election law, which had been attacked on the floor of the House a short time before by Representative Boreing (Rep., Ky.). The law, Mr. Rhea said, needed no defense, but for the benefit of those who did not understand it he would explain some of its provisions.

The Claimant Present.

During Mr. Rhea's argument J. J. McKenzie Moss, the Republican contestant in the case, occupied a seat on the floor of the House and closely followed the speaker.

The consideration of the election case was taken up immediately after the disposal of the District business in the House. Mr. Boreing (Dem., Ala.) was the first speaker.

He argued in defense of Mr. Rhea's right to the seat. He declared that the contested had been fairly and honestly elected, and that to turn him out of his seat would not only be an outrage upon him, but also upon the State of Kentucky.

Material for a Farce.

Mr. Fox, the ranking Democratic member of the Election Committee which considered the case, defended Mr. Rhea. In beginning his argument he declared that if he were a playwright he would want no better material for a first-class farce than that produced in the conduct of an election case before Congress.

The Goebel Election Law.

In a half hour's speech Mr. Boreing (Rep., Ky.) devoted himself to an arraignment of the Goebel election law and a denunciation of Democratic methods and practices on election day in Kentucky.

Mr. Rhea, upon rising in his own defense, declared that he would not say

SUPERINTENDENT MILLS HEAR

Asks for Improvements at West Point and Will Probably Get Them.

Colonel Mills, superintendent of the Military Academy, was a witness yesterday before the House Committee on Military Affairs, and explained to the committee the needs of the Military Academy.

He urged a number of improvements which the committee seems disposed to give him.

Chairman Foss expects to have the Military Academy appropriation bill ready to report to the House the latter part of the week.

BILL INTRODUCED PROPOSES \$2,500,000 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUILDING

Provides for a Fireproof Structure to Be Erected on the Present Grounds of the Department—Expected That Congress Will Approve the Measure.

A bill for the proposed new Department of Agriculture building was introduced in the Senate yesterday by Mr. Fairbanks, chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

The building is to cost not more than \$2,500,000, and is to be located in the grounds of the Agricultural Department, at such place as the Secretary of Agriculture shall see fit. It is to be constructed under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. The bill specifies that the building shall be fireproof.

It is provided that the construction shall be in charge of an officer of the Government, selected by the Secretary of Agriculture, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, and that he shall receive during the construction an addition to his regular salary of 25 per cent.

The new Agricultural Building has been one of the most needed of the Government buildings in the opinion of many of the members of Congress. There has been a disposition in Congress to be especially liberal to the Agricultural Department during the past two years, and it is believed that the bill is very likely to be passed at this session.

SENATE TAKES UP OLEOMARGARINE BILL

Committee's Report and Minority Views Read.

Chairman Proctor Explains Provisions of Measure—No Disposition to Extinguish a Legitimate Industry.

The oleomargarine bill was taken up by the Senate yesterday afternoon. It makes oleo and other imitation dairy products subject of the laws of the States or Territories into which they are transported and changes the penalty for violation to ten cents a pound.

Mr. Proctor, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, which reported the bill, explained its provisions and advocated its passage. It imposes, he said, a tax of 10 cents a pound on oleomargarine when so colored as to make it pass for butter; and it reduces the present rate of 2 cents a pound to one cent when not colored and where there is no attempt to deceive the public.

There is no disposition on the part of the advocates, he stated, to do away with a legitimate industry, but to protect the consumer against the adulteration of food.

The committee's report and the views of the minority (the latter quite a long document) were read then in full. The views of the minority are signed by Senators Bate, Money, Helfferich, and Simmons.

that he did not believe that a Democrat could get a fair hearing at the hands of a Republican committee regarding which he thought the committee had, however, made a mistake and he proposed to show it.

"If by fraud, or injustice, or partisanship I believed I was returned to this House," exclaimed Mr. Rhea, "I would seek to hold a worse fraud. (Applause.) I am not returned to this House on account of the mere salary of about \$400 a month would induce me to hold on with tenacity to a seat I did not believe I was fairly elected."

A Partisan Arrangement.

Replying to Mr. Boreing's attack upon the Goebel law, Mr. Rhea said he would not say anything unkind of him or his political associates. It was a purely partisan arrangement, which disclosed the fact that Mr. Boreing was both partisan and ignorant of the election law of his own State.

Continuing, Mr. Rhea went into some explanation of the law. Taking up the fact that the opponents of the bill admitted the practice, one going so far as to describe the method of manufacture.

He opposed the Goebel bill on the ground that it was a worse fraud than the one it sought to suppress, and was intended to permit and encourage not only fraud but also bribery.

It was extravagant in creating a useless office and bureau. It took the power from the State and gave it to a Federal official, an autocrat, who had power to kill any industry or individual, or firm, or to allow any one of these to go free of inspection and taxation at will.

Mr. Rhea's testimony concluded the public hearings, and the committee in executive session agreed to a favorable report upon the Hepburn bill.

LEPROSY IN THIS COUNTRY.

Senate Receives Report Concerning 278 Cases in the United States.

There are 278 cases of leprosy in the United States. Of these, 186 were probably contracted in this country. Of the people affected, 126 are males and 152 are females.

Of the total number of cases, 126 are isolated, 152 are contagious, one, the imported case, is in a State in which leprosy is prevalent.

These are some of the statistics given in the report to Congress of the Commission of Marine Hospital Surgeons, appointed to investigate leprosy in this country. The report reached the Senate yesterday morning.

The enquiry shows that the number of leprosy in this country is smaller than is generally believed.

\$76,000,000 FOR THE NAVY.

Subcommittee to Report Appropriation Bill This Week.

A subcommittee of the Committee on Naval Affairs in the House of Representatives will report the naval appropriation bill to the full committee this week.

The bill, it was stated yesterday, will carry something like \$76,000,000, which is about a million dollars less than the appropriation last year.

Chairman Foss expects to have the bill ready to report to the House the latter part of next week.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

Bill for Reorganization May Be Taken Up by House Today.

It is probable the House may take up the bill for the reorganization of the revenue cutter service today. Considerable effort has been made to get this bill before the House, particularly by Representative Minor, of Wisconsin.

The latter's interest in the measure led to the charge that he had been persuaded to cease his opposition to the Payne Cuban bill in return for the consideration of the revenue cutter bill. This charge has been denied by Mr. Minor.

MINOR BILLS IN THE SENATE.

Negotiations Authorized for Purchase of General St. Clair's Order Book.

The Senate yesterday passed the following measures:

Authorizing the Secretary of War to negotiate with John T. Dolan, of Portland, Ore., for purchase of original manuscript copy of "Order Book of Gen. Arthur Saint Clair."

Appropriating \$5,000 to enclose and beautify the monument on the Moore Creek battlefield, North Carolina.

To provide for the repayment of unexpended moneys deposited to cover costs of platting and office work in connection with mining claims.

To authorize the establishment of a life saving station at or near Eagle Harbor, on Keweenaw Point, Mich., and to reimburse certain Lower Brule Sioux Indians of South Dakota for property destroyed.

House bill appropriating \$125,000 for a marine hospital at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Appropriating \$100,000 for public building at Georgetown, S. C.

Providing that the statutes of limitations of the several States shall apply as a defense to actions brought in any courts for the recovery of lands patented under the treaty of May 10, 1854, between the United States of America and the Shawnee tribe of Indians.

Conferees were ordered on the bill to repeat the war taxation law and on the legislative appropriation bill.

Senators Aldrich, Allison, and Vest were appointed conferees on the first and Senators Cullom, Warren, and Teller on the second.

CONDITION OF THE NEGRO.

Representative Irwin Wants an Investigation of His Status.

Representative Irwin (Rep., Ky.) yesterday introduced in the House a bill to create a commission to enquire into the condition of the colored people of the United States.

The measure provides that the President shall appoint a board of five persons, to be known as the Freedmen's Enquiry Commission, whose duty it shall be to make a comprehensive investigation of the negro race in the United States, their education, their condition of life, and their progress toward harmony between the races.

The commission is directed to make a report to Congress containing the adjustment of the negro race.

The bill provides that the commission shall submit its report to Congress and the President, and that the President shall submit a report to Congress and the President, and that the President shall submit a report to Congress and the President.

BOER SYMPATHY RESOLUTION IN HOUSE

Measure Agreed Upon in Democratic Caucus Introduced.

GREAT BRITAIN APPEALED TO

Proposed That England Be Asked to Accept Overtures for Peace—United States to Preserve a Strict Neutrality in the War.

Representative Randall (Dem., Tex.) yesterday introduced in the House the resolution agreed upon at the recent Democratic caucus expressing sympathy for the two South African Republics, and urging cessation of hostilities.

The resolution reads:

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That the Congress of the United States hereby expresses the sympathy of the people of the United States for the people of the South African Republic and Orange Free State in their heroic struggle to maintain their liberty and independence."

To Appeal to England.

"Resolved, That the Congress appeals to the British Government in the interests of humanity to accept overtures for peace, cease hostilities and endeavor to bring about a just and honorable settlement of existing differences between the British Government and the two South African Republics, to the end that peace may be established."

"Resolved, That the United States should and will fairly and honorably maintain a position of strict neutrality in this contest between nations friendly to us, and that the Administration should to it that the neutrality laws are vigorously and impartially enforced."

Representative Cochran (Dem., Mo.) introduced a resolution in the House yesterday instructing the Secretary of State to secure whether safe conduct to combatant camps "may be obtained from the British authorities which will enable persons sent to South Africa to add to the ranks of the sick."

In these cases, the Secretary of State is authorized to transmit to the House the results of his enquiries.

GOLD BASK PHILIPPINES

Financial Expert Defends His Recommendation.

Says Americans Would Have Commercial Advantage Under Plan—Silver Would Be Used.

Charles A. Conant, the financial expert who was sent to the Philippines by the War Department to study the banking and currency needs of the islands, was given a hearing yesterday afternoon by the Senate Philippine Committee in opposition to the proposed adoption of the silver basis for the monetary system of the archipelago.

Mr. Conant was sent to the Philippines by the War Department to investigate the currency question, and his report favoring a gold standard for the islands was recommended by the department.

The Conant Plan.

Under the Conant plan dollars of 355 grains were to be coined, redeemable in gold at 50 cents at the will of the holder. He argued that his plan would give the people of the islands a stable currency and at the same time would give the American merchant a decided advantage because of the fixed ratio to American money.

The French and German merchants would be compelled to translate his prices, while the American would not.

As to the claim that the silver standard would be better, because the trade of the islands was with silver countries, Mr. Conant said that the countries having the largest trade with the islands—Japan, British India, Siberia, and Australia—were all gold-standard countries and that China was the one country on a silver basis.

English Bankers to Benefit.

The silver standard for the archipelago proposed by some, he said, would result to the advantage of the English bankers of Shanghai and Hongkong, who now controlled the money market of the islands, and would work to the disadvantage of the United States.

He accused the committee that just as an American silver would be used under his plan as under the silver standard.

LEWERS WANT TO BE HEARD.

ious to Appear Before Committee as License Tax.

The Brewers' Association of Washington has requested the House District Committee to give them a hearing on the bill now pending before the committee to amend the liquor laws of the District of Columbia. The brewers are opposed to the proposed increase in the liquor license tax.

Some of the members of the committee have expressed themselves in favor of a \$1,000 tax per annum on the ground that the District needs the additional revenue, and also because a higher license would weed out a lot of low groggeries. The committee will decide next Thursday when they will hear the brewers.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature on every box. 25c.

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